

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00

DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05

FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /132 W

-----120635Z 017309 /13-11

R 111457Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8173

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08121

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, GW

SUBJECT: DEEP SEABED MINING; CDU/CSU SUGGESTS UNILATERAL
LEGISLATION

1. THE PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS OF THE CDU/CSU OPPOSITION ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE ON MAY 6 DISCUSSING THE POSSIBLE NEED FOR UNILATERAL GERMAN INITIATIVES IN DEEP SEABED MINING. THE PRESS RELEASE FIRST URGED THE FRG DELEGATION TO THE LOS CONFERENCE TO DEFEND FIRMLY GERMAN INTERESTS IN EXPLOITING THE DEEP SEABEDS. SHOULD THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE NOT BE SATISFACTORY, THE CDU/CSU INDICATED THAT IT MIGHT PRESS FOR EITHER NATIONAL INTERIM LEGISLATION OR A PROGRAM TO PROTECT GERMAN INVESTMENTS IN DEEP SEA MINING.
2. THE PRESS RELEASE EXPLAINED THAT GERMAN COMPANIES HAVE MADE ENORMOUS FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS UP TO NOW FOR
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THE EXPLORATION OF BASIC MATERIALS ON THE SEABED AND FOR ESTABLISHING DEEP SEA MINING TECHNOLOGY, AND THAT THEY COULD NO LONGER BE EXPECTED TO ACCEPT A FURTHER PERIOD OF LEGISLATIVE INSECURITY WITH REGARD TO THE ISSUANCE OF LICENSES TO EXPLOIT THE SEABED. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY THE CASE, INASMUCH AS THESE COMPANIES NOW FACE NEW INVESTMENT DECISIONS INVOLVING LARGE-SCALE

TESTING PROGRAMS. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE FRG HAS CONSIDERABLE ECONOMIC INTEREST IN STRENGTHENING THE ACTIVITIES OF THESE GERMAN COMPANIES, AS A MEANS TO ASSURE INDEPENDENT ACCESS TO MINERAL RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIES. THE PRESS RELEASE CONCLUDED WITH THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT THESE EFFORTS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL OVER THE LONG RUN ONLY IF COOPERATION AMONG GERMAN, AMERICAN, AND JAPANESE FIRMS COULD BE STRENGTHENED ON THE BASIS OF AN INTERNATIONALLY-ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION.

3. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE UNILATERAL LEGISLATION DURING THE MAY 2 U.S.-FRG CONSULTATIONS IN BONN, THIS INITIAL PRESSURE FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE. STOESEL

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 11-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PLOS, GE, LOS
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